

April 10, 1975

Therefore, I move that LB 317A be advanced to E & R Initial.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? The question is the advancement of 317A. Record your vote. Record Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay.

PRESIDENT: The bill is advanced. LB 269 M. Clerk?

CLERK: There is a request by Senator Mills to bracket 269 until April 17.

PRESIDENT: Senator Mills asks for unanimous consent to bracket 269 until April 17. Is there an objection? Seeing none, it's so ordered. LB 401.

CLERK: Legislative Bill 401. Introduced by Senator Schmit. Bill read. There are committee amendments by Senator Carsten's Revenue Committee.

PRESIDENT: While we're waiting for Senator Carsten, Senator Kelly advises the Chair that there are 85 forth and fifth grade students from Grand Island in the north balcony. We're very happy to have you students here. Welcome to the Legislature and come back again. Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the body, the amendments that were excepted to the bill....the first amendment provides for refunding procedure for the bond issue and the second amendment strikes the language requiring the use of up to one half of the bond issue for hard surfacing the state highway road system. The committee felt that the issuance of the bond should not be restricted by the hard surface requirement. Acutally, I think, the general consensus of the committee that the amendments would really strengthen the back-up measure as the intent of the bill really is. I move for the adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? The question is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 401. Record your vote. Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, no nays, 23 not voting.

PRESIDENT: Motion carries, the amendments are adopted. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, LB 401 merely gives the Governor the authority to issue 20 million dollars of highway bonds, if necessary. I believe the recent action of the Federal government by which they released some funds for highway programs in indicative of the need for this bill. The bill does not mandate the issuance of bonds, it merely provides may be issued if necessary. It gives the Governor discretionary authority, and I believe that at this present time, of course we all realize the economy is slow, there's always the chance that additional federal funds may be released and because of the very flexible position in which this places the Governor, I believe it's a good bill. It may be that the amount should be greater than 20 million but in any case, it is that much money and although I know that the Governor is opposed to deficit financing, he is also very firmly committed to the idea that federal funds should not go to waste. I believe that he would approve the bill, and